

## ABSTRACT

The present invention pertains to a process for reducing the sulfur  
5 content of a hydrocarbon feedstock to a value of less than about 200 ppm,  
comprising optionally subjecting a catalyst comprising a Group VIB metal  
component, a Group VIII metal component, and an S-containing organic  
additive to a sulfidation step and/or activation step, and contacting a feedstock  
with a 95% boiling point of about 450°C or less with the optionally sulfided  
10 and/or activated catalyst under conditions of elevated temperature and  
pressure to form a product with a sulfur content of less than about 200 ppm,  
preferably less than about 50 ppm.